

need. They have done an excellent job. They have demonstrated time and time again their capability of educating people who get out into the work force and produce income, produce revenue for the state and support themselves. I think Senator Nichol has well researched this. I think that in the absence of any good reason why we should oppose the amendment other than the rhetoric offered by Senator Dworak, we should adopt the Nichol amendment. He has stated that the Governor would go along with it. I can assure you that past experience would indicate that the Governor is not going to throw money around and I think that the amendment is justified and deserves our support.

PRESIDENT: Senator Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: Mr. President, members, I rise in support of the amendment. I really don't know how many people are going to put in, how many counties are going to put in their reevaluations this year. I will go along with Senator Dworak that actually there could be a windfall for these people if these reevaluations are put in. If they are not put in, I think the tech colleges are just more of a standstill right now than anything else and I think Senator Nichol has a good amendment. I would support it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I would expand a little bit more explanation of the committee's position. First, I would suggest that the comparisons that are being used here with the University and the state colleges in per pupil cost is kind of an apple, orange, lemon comparison because you cannot make this, you cannot defend making the assumptions that are made here to arrive at the per pupil cost FTE. I understand it is done by our own staff but what I am saying is the assumptions that are being used here are not defensible to use for comparative cost between the three systems. Secondly, I would point out that what we are moving toward will clarify that per pupil cost in another year or so, if 846 and 897 can be enacted, both which will lead to further use of the PCS format so we really can make comparative analysis as to the cost and the operations and the programs between the three systems that we have. But going back, there are at least five factors that I think ought to be considered in your own minds whether you want to vote for this particular increase. Number one, we have repeatedly pointed out and we all know we are with limited funds. My personal policy has been that we first take care of state agency responsibilities, financial responsibilities. Then you take care of meeting requests for continuing aid programs at the same level that they have historically been or are required by law specifically. Then you look next for utilization of what limited funds we have to fund new state programs, and our last priority ought to be the expansion of local aid programs and, of course, as community colleges exist, this is a local aid program. Secondly, I would point out that they do have other resources over which we have no control but they have control. They certainly do have the opportunity of allocation of their resources even if they are limited by mill levy to utilize differently if they so choose to do so. Certainly at some point, we will be having extensive discussions on the amount of capital